

HOUSE BILL 3222
By Kelsey

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 36,
relative to domestic relations

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 36-1-102, is amended by deleting subdivision (36) and substituting instead the following:

(36) "Parent or Parent's" means any biological guardian, and any legal, adoptive parent or parents or, for purposes of §§36-1-127 - 36-1-141, stepparents; provided, a progenitor of a child who is not a legal parent shall never possess or be considered to possess parental rights in relation to the subject child until, if ever, after a court has so adjudicated, in response to a petition to establish parentage; provided further, no court shall ever adjudicate a petition to establish parentage filed by a progenitor who is not a legal parent, in favor of the progenitor, by default judgment or without having first appointed a guardian *ad litem* to represent the interests of the subject child.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006, the public welfare requiring it.